CENTRAL BANK SAYS RECESSION IS OVER, PG 8

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Atleo wins AFN election

FocusOn FirstNations

LEADERSHIP After a long-fought battle, Shawn Atleo was elected national chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

The battle between Atleo and Perry Bellegarde went to an eighth ballot Thursday morning, where Atleo ended up with 58 per cent of the vote. After that, Bellegarde conceded his bid.

Shawn Atleo

Atleo said challenges to be dealt with include health, poverty, education and unity. METRO CALGARY

Entertainment pg 19

Stan Lee still going strong

FocusOn FirstNations

Metro Canada continues its focus on First Nations and Aboriginal news as part of a special series.

• Today

• **Canice Leung on how Aboriginal murder victim Sarah Jean de Vries fell through social cracks, page 6**

• **Christine Williams' analysis on the problems Shawn Atleo must address as new AFN leader, page 4**

On the web

Stay informed:

• Go to metronews.ca for your weekend news updates.

Cowboys stiffs winners?

Nightclub allegedly failed to deliver on contest's advertised grand prize

METRO NewsExclusive

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

Two local music talents claim they were spurned by the popular Cowboys nightclub after the establishment allegedly failed to deliver on promotional prizes involving opening for big-name acts.

Catherine Miranda competed in a Cowboys Star contest last month, which advertised online the winner would open for a "Stampede Band," a band she said she was allegedly told would be Jo Dee Messina on July 7.

Miranda said days before the show she started getting the "run around," and the night before the show she was told she would need a backup band.

She managed to get a band together, but on the day of the show Miranda was told she wouldn't be performing. She has since been calling the bar repeatedly but hasn't been able to find out what happened.

"It hurts. You feel really cheated and betrayed."
Eddie Black, musician

"I just think it's ridiculous. All my friends came and supported me and spent money in their bar, but they never followed through on the prize."

Local band Atomic Aura allege they were denied the prize of opening for Collective Soul on Canada Day, and one of the band members even lost his job to compete in the contest, according to band founder Eddie Black.

"It hurts. You feel really cheated and betrayed ... We worked really hard for this opportunity," he said.

But he said he learned the hard way to get things in writing next time.

"I guess you have to make sure there is a contract," he added.

Miranda and Atomic Aura were given offers to play different nights but both declined, saying they were cheated out of their real prizes and not given enough notice to play the nights they were asked to.

Comments from Cowboys were made off the record, though repeated requests for an official response went unanswered.

Hunger strike **Fighting for Iranian democracy**

ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Naz Evini hands out fliers on Stephen Avenue during a hunger strike set to end Friday. Protesters want the United Nations to help people who were illegally detained after the recent presidential election in Iran.

Family ID'd in collision

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

DEATHS Cardston RCMP have identified five people killed in a collision Wednesday, but revealed three children were among those dead, not two like originally believed.

RCMP Sgt. Patrick Webb confirmed Clement Wolf Plume, 47, James Wells, 28, and his three children Reese, 9, Jenna 6, and Jordan, 1, were all killed in the accident that also left Plume's two teenaged sons with non-life-threatening injuries.

Webb said the pickup truck was travelling south when it rear-ended a backhoe that was also driving south. The backhoe driver was unharmed.

Webb said RCMP are investigating why the crash occurred.

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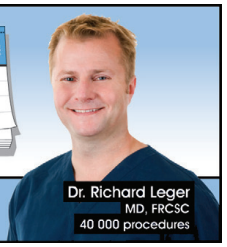
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Police arrest man after fatal collision
Police have arrested a man who allegedly fled the scene of a fatal collision just after midnight Thursday in the intersection of Sarcee Trail and Richmond Road SW. The suspect was picked up later by police who believe alcohol was a factor and expect charges to be laid. METRO CALGARY

Local

"This is something Alberta has been working toward for a number of years."
Minister of Alberta Health and Wellness Ron Liepert, left, in announcing yesterday the Alberta government will offer a free seasonal influenza vaccine to all Albertans six months and older starting in the fall. METRO CALGARY

News in brief

HOAX RCMP investigators have determined a 14-year-old Strathmore girl's sexual assault complaint on Monday was actually a hoax after the young girl admitted to making the story up after a verbal encounter she had with two males. Investigators said the girl could be charged with public mischief.

COLLISION Two people are fighting for their lives at the Foothills Hospital after a collision on Wednesday night on Highway 1A near Canmore. A Honda Civic going westbound crashed into a Dodge Neon that was making a left turn, said RCMP. RCMP said alcohol is not believed to be a factor but charges are pending.

EMISSIONS Two independent studies have found direct emissions from producing, transporting and refining oil - sands crude are in the same range as other crude oils produced in the United States, the province said yesterday. The studies found that oilsands GHG emissions are about 10 per cent higher than others, the studies said.

SENTENCED Liban Mohamed Robleh, 22, was sentenced to five years in jail yesterday after being convicted of sexual assault causing bodily harm. Robleh offered the victim a ride home after meeting her in a downtown bar; he then raped her in the backseat of his car.

AWARD A Calgary writer has been the first Canadian to receive the Rachel Carson Environment Book Award from the U.S.-based Society of Environmental Journalists. Andrew Nikiforuk won the award for his book titled Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent. METRO CALGARY

Park and ride pass proposed

JOEL MESSNER
for Metro Calgary

Another move is afoot to try and save Calgarians cash on the park and ride front.

Ald. Bob Hawkesworth is presenting a notice of motion to council on Monday that suggests the city look at alternative forms of revenue in park and ride lots.

Hawkesworth says if a transit user were to buy his proposed park and ride pass at the same time as an adult bus pass, they could save up to $40 on parking.

"If someone is using the parking lot 20 times a month at $3 a day it costs $60 to park; if however they bought this pass that I'm talking about, they might be able to buy the pass for $20 or something like that," said Hawkesworth.

The Ward 4 alderman hopes this will help fill up the park and ride lots.

METRO CALGARY FILE PHOTO

Ald. Bob Hawkesworth is hoping a proposed parking pass at Calgary Transit park and ride lots will help ease the financial burden on riders — and bring more riders back to the lots.

Natalie Odd of the Clean Calgary Association thinks the motion is a good attempt to get riders back on transit.

"Anything that the city can do to reduce (park and ride costs) would be a good idea," said Odd.

The resemblance of this motion to Ald. John Mar's motion to reduce fees to $1 a day made a month ago isn't lost on Hawkesworth.

"I want to avoid having to get a reconsideration motion through council. I don't think I would be able to get 10 votes at the moment," he said.

Safety ambassador for downtown?

PROGRAM Downtown Calgary could be getting some new foot patrol within the next year but this patrol won't be law enforcement.

The Downtown Calgary Association wants to implement a safety ambassador program in the downtown, modelled after an initiative launched in Dallas nine years ago.

"The Dallas Safety Courtesy program is a perfect example of how the private sector can influence, enhance and change a city or neighbourhood," said Calgary Downtown Association Executive Director Maggie Schofield.

This initiative would see private citizens walk the downtown core and provide what Schofield called a concierge service.

"The purpose of them is to act more like a concierge type service, if people have questions or they don't know where they are going — that sort of thing — they can help them with that," said Schofield.

JOEL MESSNER/FOR METRO CALGARY

Family pleads for truck driver to come forward

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

ACCIDENT The family of a man killed in a collision last month is pleading for the semi-driver involved to come forward.

Last month 32-year-old Ryan Wald was killed when his pickup truck smashed into the back of a semi-truck on Glenmore Trail and 52 Ave. SE, and his widow, Jennifer, and brother Christopher spoke publicly yesterday.

"We know what happened and nothing is going to change the outcome but there is just that last piece of the puzzle we need to make it make more sense," Jennifer said.

"It's on our mind all the time, so any truck that goes by, you know you have to take a look. It's just part of daily living it seems now," Christopher added.

Police initially believed the driver wasn't aware he was involved in the collision but now believe the driver may have known, according to traffic section Sgt. Graeme Ramsay.

Jennifer Wald and Christopher Wald are pleading for the driver of a truck involved in a fatal crash to come forward.

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What's online today.

Video Cirque de Soleil founder promises not to be a burden on the crew when he becomes Canada's first space tourist at **metronews.ca/canada**

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B.C. harmonizes sales tax

B.C. will introduce a harmonized sales tax of 12 per cent, replacing the PST and GST effective July 2010, Premier Gordon Campbell announced Thursday morning in Vancouver, CBC News Online reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada/World

Relations must start with mutual respect

New chief faces poverty, land claim issues

Christine Williams

News Analysis

FocusOn FirstNations

Ending a nine-year leadership, departing Assembly of First Nations head Phil Fontaine instructed his successor to eradicate First Nations poverty as a top priority.

But now that Shawn Atleo has taken over the reigns, the hostilities between Aboriginals and mainstream Canada over some 900 outstanding land claims should be an equal priority.

The 42-year old Atleo, who defeated Perry Bellegarde, believes both the federal and provincial governments "continue to operate from a position of non-recognition," according to his platform communiqué.

The latest confrontation between the Canadian Border Services agency and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne at the eastern Ontario border crossing highlights the situation's urgency. Mohawk warriors burned bonfires around the CBSA compound. They wore camouflage and had a bulldozer on hand, ready to swarm in if the CBSA proceeded with the arming of its officers. It was a travesty for federal border agents to be chased out of office by such lawlessness.

The Canadian public is tired of: The spectre of violence in tense standoffs, blockades, and looming threats, all driven on by rogue Aboriginal activists, not necessarily supported by their own communities.

No one wants violence or another Ipperwash. Governments are our elected representatives, obligated to control civic unrest for the safety of its citizens.

A solution demands that we must start from a position of mutual respect, and Chief Atleo has his work cut out for him as the new leader of the Assembly of First Nations.

As a businessman, and chancellor of Vancouver Island University, he has touted himself as a bridge builder, regional politician and champion of unity.

The majority of AFN chiefs and Aboriginal progressives see education and peaceful demonstrations as the best way to inform mainstream Canada of the plight of First Nation peoples. Beyond this, both the federal and provincial jurisdictions need to sit down at the negotiating table with Aboriginal leaders.

Dragging heels on the issue is objectionable given the frustrations on both sides. The only other option is to await bloodshed.

Christine Williams is the producer and host of the live current affairs daily talk show On the Line at CTS TV in Burlington, Ont.

Politicians, rabbis arrested after probe that included organ sales

NEW JERSEY Dozens of New Jersey politicians, officials and prominent rabbis were arrested Thursday in a sweeping federal probe that uncovered political corruption, human organ sales and money laundering from New York to Israel, officials said.

The 10-year investigation, dubbed "Operation Bid Rig," exposed influence-peddling and bribe-taking among a network of public officials and a separate multimillion-dollar money-laundering ring that funnelled funds through charities operated by local rabbis, said the U.S. attorney's office in Newark.

The cast of the 44 arrested featured Hoboken, N.J., Mayor Peter Cammarano, who took office three weeks ago in the industrial city visible across the Hudson River from New York.

"The politicians willingly put themselves up for sale."
Acting U.S. attorney Ralph Marra

"New Jersey's corruption problem is one of the worst, if not the worst, in the nation," said Ed Kahrer, assistant special agent in charge of the FBI in New Jersey, who has worked on the investigation since it began in July 1999.

"It has become ingrained in New Jersey's political culture," he said, calling corruption "a cancer."

In scenes that could have been lifted from the hit TV series The Sopranos, they met in diners, parking lots, even bathrooms, officials said.

"The politicians willingly put themselves up for sale," said acting U.S. attorney Ralph Marra.

The probe also uncovered Levy Izhak Rosenbaum of Brooklyn, who is accused of conspiring to broker the sale of a human kidney for a transplant. According to the complaint, Rosenbaum said he had been brokering sale of kidneys for 10 years.

"His business was to entice vulnerable people to give up a kidney for $10,000 which he would turn around and sell for $160,000," said Marra. REUTERS

Wendy and Chris Plus 15

RICK WILKING/REUTERS

Hannah Jeub, 6, hangs over the seat as her family loads into their 15-passenger van in Monument, Colo. Quiverfull believers Wendy and Chris Jeub have 15 children and would be happy to have more if God wills it, they say.

Obama enters racial debate

U.S. President Barack Obama plunged his presidency into a racial debate and set off a firestorm in one of America's most liberal bastions by siding with a black Harvard scholar who accuses police of racism.

Saying he was unaware of "all the facts" but that police in Cambridge, Mass., "acted stupidly" in their arrest of Henry Louis Gates, Obama whipped up emotions on both sides of the issue. But many in Massachusetts said he crossed a line by passing judgment on police while acknowledging he did not have all the facts. Online polls in Massachusetts show strong support for the white arresting officer. A police union also has come to his defence.

The case

- Massachusetts Police say Henry Louis Gates was arrested last Thursday for disorderly conduct, accusing him of being uncooperative, refusing to initially provide identification and "exhibiting loud and tumultuous behaviour" by repeatedly shouting at police in front of people gathered on the street in front of his house.

"He should steer clear of it if he doesn't know all the facts," said Patricia Lynch, a consultant and graduate of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. REUTERS

News in brief

AL-QAIDA One of Osama bin Laden's sons was probably killed by a U.S. missile strike in Pakistan earlier this year, National Public Radio reported, citing U.S. intelligence sources. A U.S. counterterrorism official said Thursday that Sa'ad bin Laden may be dead, "but it's not 100 per cent certain." He described the son of the al-Qaida leader as "a small player with a big name."

COUP Honduras will not yield to international pressure for the return to power of President Manuel Zelaya, officials said Thursday as Zelaya prepared a new bid to go home from exile.

JAILBREAK Three prisoners escaped from a jail outside the Belgian city of Bruges in a hijacked helicopter on Thursday, authorities said. Media reports said the escapees flew to the town of Aalter, then seized a black Mercedes from its female driver and robbed a service station before heading for the Belgian coast.

FLU Children who have unexplained seizures and flu-like symptoms should be tested for infection with influenza A (H1N1) and treated with flu-fighting drugs, U.S. health officials said on Thursday. They said four children in Dallas who got the virus in May had seizures or changes in mental status caused by brain infections and swelling. Some of the children experienced drowsiness and disorientation. Two of the four had seizures. All have recovered. REUTERS

Vancouver Rescuers working

ANDY CLARK/REUTERS

Members of a fire rescue team descend from the top of the Lions Gate suspension bridge in Vancouver Thursday during a training session. The bridge is considered by many in the area to be a magnet for suicides.

Tough guidelines for Taser use in B.C.

JEFF HODSON
Metro Canada

DZIEKANSKI B.C. is adopting strict new guidelines on the use of stun guns, like the Taser, stemming from the 2007 death of a Polish immigrant at Vancouver's airport, the province's solicitor general said Thursday.

The new rules mean an officer can only use a conducted energy weapon if there is a danger of bodily harm and all lesser force options have been exhausted. The rules are based on 19 recommendations issued by retired judge Thomas Braidwood, who was tasked with examining the weapon's use.

The commission was launched following the death of Robert Dziekanski, who died after being Tasered multiple times.

The new rules apply to municipal police officers, sheriffs and RCMP.

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EDITOR: MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA
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Comment

Remembering 'just another junkie'

FourthWave

Sarah Jean de Vries. It's not a name I knew before seeing filmmaker Janis Cole's video installation, Remember Their Names, at a Toronto gallery, but I'd now be hard-pressed to forget it.

Her missing poster, case No. 98-88486, reads like this: Known prostitute and drug user; black, white, Aboriginal, Mexican Native heritage; age 28; last seen at Princess and Hastings streets on April 14, 1998.

She is one of 27 dead women Robert Pickton faces murder charges for; one of 68 women, Indians, junkies and whores, missing from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

Not a week into her disappearance, friends and family postered and pushed police to act — not just for Sarah, but for dozens who had disappeared since the 1980s.

That inaction is Cole's constant theme. A screen flashes quotes from police: "We've done as much as we could." "We're in no way saying there is a serial killer ... (or) the women are dead."

The installation loops footage of Sarah shooting up. "There's three ways you can go: Jail; dead; or end up a lifer down here," she says.

FocusOn FirstNations

In a 1999 Seattle Times article, Sereena Abotsway echoed Sarah's despair, saying she feared for her safety. She joined community marches to call for police action as women disappeared. Two years later, she, too, went missing, one of six women Pickton was convicted of killing in 2007.

This is Canada's collective shame, ignoring women like Sarah and Sereena, who felt fear and vulnerability with urgency, who asked for (and gave) help, but received none.

It's a tired cry for a static situation: Why has nothing been done? Since 1969, 18 women have disappeared or been murdered on Highway 16, the Highway of Tears, in northern B.C. Last fall, best friends Maisy Odjick and Shannon Alexander disappeared from the Kitigan Zibi reserve north of Ottawa without even their wallets, but for months police maintained the teens had simply run away.

"No one cares, we are just junkie scum. Yet if we had been somebody important and our daughter had gone missing," Sarah wrote, presciently, before her disappearance, "no stone unturned, no rock or cranny would be left unsearched."

Canice Leung is a former editor of Ryerson University feminist magazine McClung's, copy editor at Metro, ardent feminist and loudmouth.

Views

Dive into one of the city's swimming pools

UrbanCompass

This week, do your civic duty. Go to an outdoor pool. Pay your fee, or double if you can, and enjoy this all-too-brief summer experience.

Calgary's outdoor pools have 80 days to make money. And they make most of it this month. As Mike Gavan, director of the outdoor pools, told me: "We're praying for a great July."

Like most Canadian cities, our outdoor pools are owned by the city. Unlike others, though, Calgary's outdoor pools are run by community associations that keep profits, but take the risk of losses.

Get swimming. Use them or lose them.

In 2004, the pools were in jeopardy due to city budget cuts.

Communities formed the Outdoor Swimming Pools Association (COSPA). Together, this coalition gets a city grant ($437,000 this year) to finance capital costs and renovations.

Meanwhile, the communities are responsible for operating costs, such as hiring lifeguards. They can keep any profits at season's end. Last year, four had surpluses, one broke even, and two took losses of about $1,000.

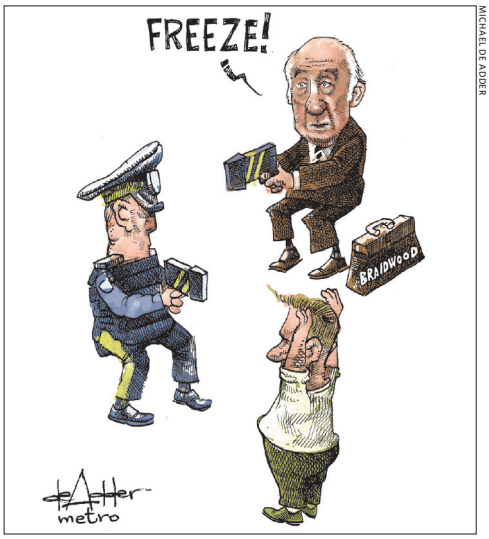
Only Silver Springs goes it alone. It wanted more control over its destiny so it negotiated its own agreement with the city.

Outdoor pools, in general, have a popularity problem. Some 23,000 people moved to Calgary last year alone, but you won't find plans for any more outdoor pools. Do the math: Calgary has eight outdoor pools for one million people. The trend is toward splash pads, or pools with shallower wading areas that don't need lifeguards.

It makes perfect sense. We're a winter climate for 10 months of the year, so indoor swimming is logical.

To find a pool near you visit calgaryoutdoorpools.ca/pools.html.

Janice Paskey teaches journalism at Mount Royal College, serves on her community association board and is a proud mom to two boys; calgaryletters@metronews.ca.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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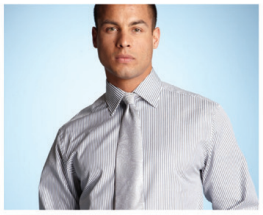

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Caisse de Depot et Placement du Quebec names new official

Caisse de Depot et Placement du Quebec, one of Canada's biggest pension fund managers, said on Thursday it had hired a new chief investment officer. The Caisse, which managed $120.1 billion in assets at the end of last year, said it appointed Roland Lescure to the posts of executive vice-president and chief investment officer. REUTERS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

ENERGY EnCana Corp., Canada's biggest energy company, said Thursday its second-quarter profit fell 80 per cent as oil and gas prices sank, but operating results beat expectations on a strong showing from its oilsands division. REUTERS

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Recession over: BoC chief

The Bank of Canada declared Canada's recession to be virtually over on Thursday and raced ahead of a cautious central banker pack with a mostly upbeat view on the world economy.

The worst-case scenario of global financial disaster has been "taken off the table," governor Mark Carney said after the central bank released a surprisingly rosy quarterly outlook.

Carney predicted a turnaround in Canada's economy this quarter, an earlier-than-expected recovery. But he warned of a long healing process with continued job losses. The bank stands ready to take further action to stimulate the economy, he said.

"We're on track for the recovery, both in Canada and globally ... But it's early days. I mean, it's a long road," Carney said.

Carney said the bank must stick to its conditional pledge to keep its benchmark interest rate at a floor of 0.25 per cent through June 2010, provided inflation does not threaten to flare greatly. REUTERS

Other banks less optimistic

- U.S. Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke expressed worries on Tuesday that high unemployment could undercut the U.S. recovery.
- The Bank of England may decide next month to pause its asset purchase program if it feels it has done enough to support the economy.

McDonald's shares slide after modest rise in sales

FOOD McDonald's Corp. reported lower-than-expected June same-store sales Thursday and its shares fell 4.9 per cent after the top-performing restaurant chain only matched Wall Street's profit view.

"The problem is that good isn't good enough for these guys," said RBC Capital Markets analyst Larry Miller, who said as shares approach $60 US, the company needs to show growth catalysts to lift its stock.

As part of its second-quarter results, McDonald's reported June sales at established restaurants rose 1.8 per cent in the U.S., 4.7 per cent in Europe and 0.3 per cent in the region that includes Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East and Africa.

That was a 2.6 per cent rise for established restaurants across all regions in June when analysts were expecting a 4.8 per cent rise, according to RBC Capital Markets. REUTERS

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GM announces turnaround team
General Motors on Thursday announced a small senior executive team to lead its attempted turnaround. REUTERS

Ford profit lifts stock

Ford Motor Co. posted a $2.3-billion US quarterly net profit, mainly due to gains from a $10 billion debt reduction plan, and said it was on track to at least break even in 2011, sending its shares up as much as 9.7 per cent.

Ford's operating loss narrowed from a year ago and was better than analysts had expected, despite poor global markets that helped push General Motors and Chrysler into bankruptcy.

Ford has not taken U.S. government emergency loans.

Referring to the overall market, chief executive Alan Mulally said on a conference call, "We believe it is going to start to come back, led by the GDP in the United States in the third quarter and pick up a little momentum in the fourth quarter and next year, but clearly this is still a very fragile economy."

An overall and North American profit in 2011 would be the first for Ford since 2004.

In the second quarter, Ford posted a net profit of 69 cents per share compared with a net loss of $2.7 billion, or $3.89 per share, a year ago.

Excluding a net gain of $2.8 billion mainly from debt reduction, Ford's operating loss narrowed to $638 million, or a loss of 21 cents per share, from a loss of $1.4 billion, or a loss of 63 cents per share, a year ago.

Analysts, on average, had expected a loss of 50 cents per share on that basis, according to Reuters Estimates.

Revenue fell to $27.2 billion in the quarter, from $38.2 billion a year earlier. REUTERS

JIM YOUNG/REUTERS

Ford Motor Co., which has not taken U.S. government emergency loans, posted a $2.3-billion quarterly net profit, and said it was expecting to at least break even in 2011.

EnCana beats expectations

ENERGY EnCana Corp., Canada's biggest energy company, said Thursday its second-quarter profit fell 80 per cent as oil and gas prices sank, but operating results beat expectations on a strong showing from its oilsands division.

EnCana shares jumped $1.28, or two per cent, to $58.93 on the Toronto Stock Exchange. They are up about 3.5 per cent so far this year.

The company also benefited from its lucrative forward sales of natural gas, which protected much of its production from the impact of sagging North American gas demand and weak prices.

"I thought it was a very good quarter and I think that the only concern in the market right now is of a macro nature. It relates to the fundamentals for the commodity that they happen to be most weighted to," Dundee Capital Markets analyst Menno Hulshof said. REUTERS

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LeBron struggled with fame, smoked pot: Book

LeBron James struggled with sudden fame after appearing on Sports Illustrated's cover as a 17-year-old and admits he smoked marijuana during his junior year in high school. Those are two of the revelations in Shooting Stars, a book chronicling James' rise from Ohio hoops prodigy to NBA superstar. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Buehrle achieves perfection

Mark Buehrle, left, pitched the first perfect game in the major leagues in five years, leading the Chicago White Sox over the Tampa Bay Rays 5-0 on Thursday. Buehrle (11-3) got a great catch from centre fielder DeWayne Wise leading off the ninth inning to save the bid when he robbed Gabe Kapler of a home run. U.S. President Barack Obama, a White Sox fan, later called Buehrle to congratulate him. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Tour de France **Contador cruises**

CHARLES PLATIAU/REUTERS

Astana rider and Tour de France leader Alberto Contador cycles by the shore of Annecy Lake during the individual time trial in the 18th stage of the race on Thursday. Contador won the stage and seems to be a lock to wrap up the title on Sunday. Contador's teammate Lance Armstrong sits in third place.

Stamps all atwitter

DAN TOTH
for Metro Calgary

Nik Lewis would have forgiven Calgary Stampeders fans had they blasted him via Twitter for the team's slow start this season. The social media format is overtaking cyberspace and even plays a role in the relationship between football players and fans.

Lewis is one of three Stamps players who regularly exchange thoughts with fans through brief text messages, yet when the Grey Cup champions started the 2009 CFL season with back-to-back losses, Lewis was braced for the worst.

"I haven't had to block anybody's texts," said Lewis, who tweets as Nikel18. "The fans have been encouraging, even after starting 0-2. I expected to see a lot more (negative) stuff, but they've been very positive about it and it's great to know and it's great to see that people just don't jump off the bandwagon when things aren't going too good."

"I tweet every day, but I don't tell people where I'm going for breakfast and lunch and all that ... people start showing up."
Henry Burris

The Stampeders, now 1-2, travel to Vancouver to take on the Lions Friday, 8:30 p.m. at B.C. Place Stadium. It's a rematch of last November's West Division final with both teams entering the game in a three-way tie for second place in the division with the Edmonton Eskimos. Calgary knocked off B.C. in all four matchups in 2008 including the West Final.

While Stampeders fans might be following Lewis' off-field thoughts via Twitter, the Stampeders receiver is often checking in with some NFL pass catchers courtesy of the same electronic phenomenon.

"I follow Chad Johnson and T.O. (Terrell Owens), two great guys," said Lewis, who may not play Friday because of a nagging hip injury. "The fans get to see a little bit of insight into our lives as football players and what we do each day, even when we're not on the field. It's a bit of reality that we do the same things everybody else does each day."

Quarterback Henry Burris is also sharing his thoughts, but the star remains cautious about providing too many details.

"I tweet every day, but I don't tell people where I'm going for breakfast and lunch and all that every day because people start showing up," Burris laughed. "I like doing it. It's fun for the fans to see what we do when we're off the field."

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Diver Despatie digs deep

FieldofPlay
Scott Russell
metronews.ca/fieldofplay

Alex Despatie hates to lose and you have to love that. At the world aquatics championships in Rome, Italy, Thursday, Despatie won a bronze medal on the three-metre springboard behind divers from China and the United States, his second medal of the championships, but there was no celebration — no claim that he's over the moon with the result.

"There wasn't anything really spectacular today," Despatie deadpanned in the aftermath. "There certainly wasn't from me anyways."

Indeed, Canada's king of the deep, the most decorated diver in this country's history, was very good, but not up to his often spectacular standards. With one dive left to deliver and ranking second he had a world championship title within his grasp, but came up slightly short. He was forced to settle for third place and the eighth medal of his illustrious world championship career to go along with two silver medals in Olympic competition.

"I guess I'm on the podium," he shrugged. "But the London Olympics are very far away, so I won't take too much from the result today."

It's been a difficult couple of years for Despatie. He fought back from a broken bone in his foot to win a dramatic silver medal in Beijing last summer. This competitive year has been a near washout because of his struggle with an aching back. Still, he sets his jaw and loves to compete in pressure-filled situations and that's been his trademark since winning a Commonwealth Games title in 1998 in Malaysia as a tiny 13-year-old.

"He's the most prolific diver ever in Canada, bar none," said Penny Joyce, the head of Diving Canada. "He feels like he's a veteran now, but he's got a lot left in him … trust me."

At 24, Despatie has been at or near the top of his game for more than a decade and suddenly he's the senior diver on the team. He's led the way for a long time and he's bound to keep paving the way in the future. This time he was forced to settle.

"I got a bronze medal, so I guess I can't be mad about that," Despatie shrugged.

But he clearly was angry and that's probably a good sign.

Alex Despatie will likely resurface as the monarch of the diving world someday soon.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

Sports in brief

STATEMENT Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger made his first public comments after being accused of sexual assault in Nevada and vehemently denied the allegations. A civil lawsuit was filed last week in Nevada by an employee of a Lake Tahoe hotel. No criminal charges have been filed.

CANADIAN OPEN American Kevin Na birdied his final five holes to grab the clubhouse lead in the first round of the rain-hit Canadian Open on Thursday. Na sits at 9-under. Mike Weir shot a 1-under 71 and sits eight strokes back after a rainy opening day.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Summer love Pg 12

Zooey Deschanel admits she was particularly drawn to her role in (500) Days of Summer, as the title character, because of its more contemporary take on love and relationships. "So what keeps people together?" she asks. "That's the question."

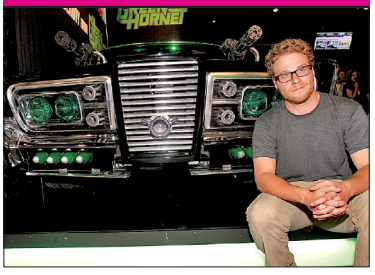
Movies Pg 13

The Ugly Truth's a raunchy rom-com without the laughs.

Music Pg 16

Rapper Asher Roth getting tired of his breakout hit.

Entertainment Pg 18



Comic Con reveals new goodies at "Nerd Prom."

At a glance
The Ugly Truth ●●½, G-Force ●●, Orphan ●●●, The Hurt Locker ●●●●

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Romancing Zooey

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Zooey Deschanel has been getting as much acclaim for her music — with producer M. Ward in the group She & Him — as she has for her acting.

So it's no wonder that with a voice like hers, filmmakers often try to work some singing into her roles. Only, Deschanel wishes they wouldn't.

"I try to avoid it, actually. Not avoid it, but I'm kind of skeptical of it," she says of breaking into song on-screen.

"It's happened to me a lot where they say, 'We have to figure out an opportunity for you to sing!' You really don't," she deadpans.

The actress does break into song in her latest film, (500) Days of Summer, but this time it's totally OK, she insists: "It was just karaoke." (She also contributes to the film's soundtrack.)

Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Zooey Deschanel star in the off-beat relationship flick (500) Days of Summer.

Movie feature

In the film, Deschanel and co-star Joseph Gordon-Levitt bond over some after-work singing, and as luck would have it the two actors, who've been friends for 10 years, had some personal experiences to draw upon.

"Joe got kicked out of karaoke once," Deschanel remembers. "He wasn't drunk or anything. He just got so into the song that he started pulling down the curtains, and the karaoke guy was like, 'I'm sorry, sir. You have to go.'" The song, it turns out, was the Black Crowes version of Hard to Handle. "The stage was just too small for him," she says. "It wasn't his fault."

Deschanel plays the titular Summer in the film, an out-of-order retelling of a romance from the perspective of the guy (Gordon-Levitt). Summer is presented as the perfect woman, a sly beauty who's left a trail of destruction and broken hearts in her path.

Being considered for such a role is big ego boost, Deschanel admits.

"I was very flattered. But if they had picked just one of those girls that everyone normally thinks is beautiful, I don't think that would've worked. Because this is partially romanticizing a little bit of quirkiness."

(Gordon-Levitt is quick to point out that Deschanel is very beautiful, by the way.)

On the web

- For movie trailers, photos and screen times — or to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies.

The Hurt Locker a tight thriller

The Hurt Locker
Director: Kathryn Bigelow
Stars: Jeremy Renner
Classification: STC
Rating: ●●●●

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

REVIEW If "war is a drug," as states the on-screen quote at the beginning of The Hurt Locker, then its main character is clearly an addict.

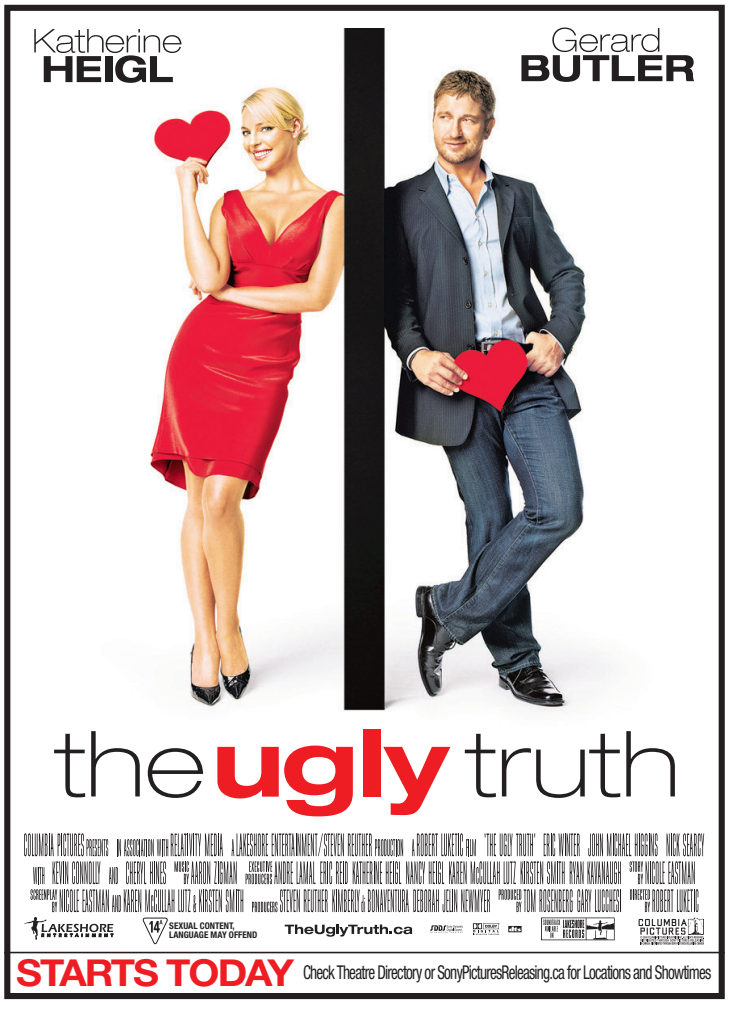
In the latest movie to ponder the subject of war, The Hurt Locker takes a fresh approach to the recent glut of Iraq-themed films (Stop-Loss, Redacted, etc…) by pointing the camera specifically at troopers assigned to disable stray bombs.

Whereas previous Iraq-based films suffered through audience indifference, this Kathryn Bigelow-helmed thriller wins big by focusing more on the nail-biting suspense of Man versus Improvised Explosive Device.

Don't get me wrong. It's not all about unseen enemies.

There is still the added uneasiness of omnipresent locals who purvey the soldiers with suspicious, unknowing eyes. But it is just that apprehension that Bigelow (Point Break) captures throughout the film, giving it a thoroughly engaging heftiness.

Jeremy Renner (28 Weeks Later) stars as James, the leader of the bomb squad who constantly unnerves his fellow soldiers with his recklessness. Based on journalist Mark Boal's experience while embedded with such a squad, this film works more as a fascinating character study than an action-packed thriller.



Bruce Lee trilogy in works

Bruce Lee's family will produce a trilogy about his life. The late martial arts actor will have his life turned into a three-part blockbuster series by loved-ones who want to pay tribute to the star. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●●○ EXCELLENT; ●●●○○ GOOD; ●●○○○ FAIR; ●○○○○ POOR

Child actor impressive

Orphan
Director: Jaume Collett-Serra
Stars: Vera Farmiga, Peter Sarsgaard
Classification: STC
Rating: ●●●

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

REVIEW The latest addition to the canon of creepy kid characters is a doozy: Esther, the titular ward of Orphan, is poised, polite, preternaturally talented and dresses like an American Girl doll. And then there's that creepy stare. Isabelle Fuhrman, who plays Esther, is terrifyingly good. In fact, she's the best thing about Orphan by far. Not to give anything away, but the movie doesn't really come alive until Esther starts glaring and people start ending up in the hospital. Until then, it's a long, long bout of set-up and false starts.

G-Force usual kiddie comedy

G-Force
Director: Hoyt Yeatman
Stars: Sam Rockwell, Tracy Morgan, Penelope Cruz
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●

DOROTHY ROBINSON
Metro World News

REVIEW If the thought "You know what I could really use to entertain me? A Jerry Bruckheimer flick about guinea pigs who are secretly government spies," has never crossed your mind, then you could probably skip G-Force.

But in all honesty, you could do worse than the Disney kiddie flick, based on the simple fact that the 3-D graphics are so cool. After seeing it, you can die happy knowing that you ducked at a fake rodent who wears an electronic ear gadget .

As Ugly as they come

The Ugly Truth
Director: Robert Luketic
Stars: Katherine Heigl, Gerard Butler
Classification: STC
Rating: ●●½

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

If you're going to call your film The Ugly Truth then you better be sure it's a masterpiece because if it's not, every film critic who lays eyes upon it will simply stand back and let the title review itself.

And make no mistake, the skinny on this pedestrian rom-com migraine-maker ain't terribly pretty.

Grey's Anatomy sexpot Katherine Heigl stars as Abby, a TV morning show producer who gets her feathers ruffled by Mike, played by Gerard Butler, a knuckle dragging hunk who has been hired on as an on-air love advice columnist.

Gerard Butler and Katherine Heigl star in The Ugly Truth.

Mike's claim to fame is that he swears to tell "the ugly truth" about male/female relations; lurid from the hip wisdom with little care placed on who he might offend. But although Abby generally loathes her popular star's sexist ramblings, she decides to take a page out of Cyrano De Bergerac and use him to help her get with her neighbour.

This being the sort of movie it is, guess who she really ends up with...

From tender roles in stuff like the underrated Dear Frankie, to the macho action hero antics of 300, to pseudo-hip fluff like Rockn-Rolla, Butler is a seriously strong screen presence and here he proves that he also has a great sense of comic timing.

Watching him spew out cheerfully rude vulgarites, smirking and smoldering is amusing and hints at the go for the throat picture screenwriters Nicole Eastman and Karen McCullah were trying for. The character (and the actor) belongs in a better film.

Director Robert Luketic (Monster In-Law) never finds the right tone to make any of the faux-screwball shenanigans anything more than an exercise in forced, fast talking (and filthy) foolishness. Even Heigl, so endearing in equally smut-lite comedies like Knocked Up can't save it and genuine laughs are few and far between (though an over the top scene featuring Heigl and a pair of electric panties is pretty funny… again, if only it were in a better, braver film).

Raunchy but safe and predictable, The Ugly Truth just ends up being unlikable. And Ugly. That's the truth.

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Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THIS PAGE COVERS MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JULY 24 TO THURS., JULY 30. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

CANYON MEADOWS
Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail, 403-670-5444

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:50-9:35
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Thu 6:45-9:20
Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri-Thu 3:40
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:35
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri-Thu 12:55
My Life in Ruins (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:55-7:25-9:55
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-7:10-9:50
The Soloist (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-7:15-9:45
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:55
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:10-7:05-10:05
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:50-6:55-9:40
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:20-9:45
Year One (14A) Fri-Thu 3:25-7:30-10:10

CROWFOOT CROSSING
91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

Brüno (18A) Fri-Thu 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:50-10:30
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:40-2:30-5-7:30-9:45
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:45-5:10-7:40-10:10
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 11:30-12-12:50-3-3:30-4:20-6:30-6:50-8-10-10:25 No Passes Wed 11:30-12-3-3:30-4:20-6:30-6:50-8-10-10:25 No Passes Thu 11:30-12-12:50-3-3:30-4:20-6:30-6:50-8-10-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:15-7-9:30
Orphan (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-4-7:25-10:25
The Proposal (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:15-10:05
Public Enemies (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:10-10:20
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:50-6:55-10:15
The Ugly Truth (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-2-4:40-7:20-9:55

EAU CLAIRE MARKET
200 Barlay Parade, 403-263-3166

Brüno (18A) Fri-Sun 12:30-2:45-5-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15-9:40
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:45-7:30-10:30 Mon-Wed 3:45-7:30-10:30 Thu 3:45-10:30
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:30-3-6:30-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 3-6:30-10
The Hurt Locker (14A) Fri 12-3:30-7-10:10 Sat 12:30-3:30-7-10:10 Sun 12-3:30-7-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:30-7-10:10
Public Enemies (14A) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:15-6:45-9:50 Mon-Thu 3:15-6:45-9:50
The Ugly Truth (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1-4-7:45-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 4-7:45-10:20

EMPIRE STUDIO 16 COUNTRY HILLS
388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

Brüno (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:20-4:10-7:20-9:35-11:35 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Mon 1:20-4:10-7:20-9:35 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Tue 1:20-4:10-7:20-9:35 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:20-9:35
G-Force (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 11:45-2-6:45-9:10
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:15-2:30-4:45-7:15-9:40
The Hangover (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 2-4:40-7:15-9:40-11:50 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 2-4:40-7:15-9:40
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 11:30-12-12:30-1-2:55-3:25-4-4:30-6:40-7:10-7:30-8-10-10:30-11 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 11:30-12-12:30-1-2:55-3:25-4-4:30-6:40-7:10-7:30-8-10-10:30-11 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 11:30-12-12:30-1-2:55-3:25-4-4:30-6:40-7:10-7:30-8-10-10:30
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:10-3-7:05-9:30
My Sister's Keeper (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 7:35-10:20 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 10:20 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:35-10:20
Orphan (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Mon 12:50-3:50-7:20-10:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 12:50-3:50-7:20-10:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Wed-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:20-10:15
The Proposal (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1-3:30-6:55-9:25-11:45 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1-3:30-6:55-9:25
Public Enemies (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:20-10:15
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 11:40-12:20-3:05-3:40-6:50-7:25-10:10-10:45 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 11:40-12:20-3:05-3:40-6:50-7:25-10:10
The Ugly Truth (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:40-3:15-7-9:30-11:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:40-3:15-7-9:30
Up (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:05-3:45 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 1:05 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:05-3:45
WWE Night of Champions (STC) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 5

EMPIRE STUDIO 10 MACLEOD TRAIL
100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

Brüno (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri 2-4:10-7:45-10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Sat-Sun 4:10-7:45-10 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 2-4:10-7:45-10
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 11:30-2-4:30-7-9:30
The Hangover (18A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:45-4:20-7:30-10:30
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 11:45-12:45-3:15-4:15-6:45-8-10:10
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:15-3-6:30-9
Opus Arte: Last Night of the Proms (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 11
The Proposal (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12:30-3:40-6:50-9:40
Public Enemies (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 6:40-9:45
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 12-3:30-7:10-10:20
The Ugly Truth (14A) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7:20-9:50 Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Wed 11
Up (G) Stadium Seating, SR Dolby Digital Fri-Thu 1:15-3:50

GLOBE CINEMA
617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

The Big Lebowski (14A) Fri-Sat 11:59
The Brothers Bloom (PG) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1-3:15-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15
Last Night of the Proms (STC) Sat 11
Moon (14A) Fri 7:10-9:20 Sat-Sun 2-3:45-7:10-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:20

MOVIEDOME
1039 999 36 St., 403-248-2000

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-10:05
Imagine That (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:50
Kambakkht Ishq (14A) Fri-Thu 9
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:45-7:05-10
Luck (STC) Fri-Thu 2-6:30-9:15
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri-Thu 1-3:55
My Life in Ruins (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:05-6:55
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:45
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:40
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:50
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri-Thu 7-9:55
Year One (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-7:15-10:10

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK
6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

Brüno (18A) Fri-Thu 12:20-2:40-5:05-7:35-10:25
G-Force (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-2:20-4:45-7:15-9:50
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-2:50-5:15-7:45-10:20
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Tue 1:15-4:20-7:20-10:15 Wed 1:15-4:20-10:15 Thu 1:15-4:20-7:20-10:15
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Wed 11:30-12-1:15-3-3:30-5-7-7:30-8-9-10:25-10:55 No Passes Thu 11:30-12-3-3:30-5-7-7:30-8-9-10:25-10:55 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince: The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Wed-Thu 11:45-3:15-6:45-10:15
The Hurt Locker (14A) Fri-Thu 12:05-3:30-7:10:30
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:30-2-4:30-7:10-9:40
Metropolitan Opera: Eugene Onegin (STC) Sat 11
My Sister's Keeper (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:45-5:30
Orphan (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-4:30-7:35-10:30
The Proposal (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-7:05-10:05
Public Enemies (14A) Fri 12:45-4:05-7:20-10:40 Sat 4:05-7:20-10:40 Sun-Thu 12:45-4:05-7:20-10:40
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) Fri-Sat 11:30-3-6:30-9:45 Sun 11:30-3-9:45 Mon-Thu 11:30-3-6:30-9:45
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen: The IMAX Experience (14A) Fri-Tue 12-3:30-7-10:30
The Ugly Truth (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-2:50-5:20-8-10:45
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:40-2:05-4:40-7:15-10
WWE Night of Champions 2009 (STC) Sun 6

PLAZA THEATRE
1133 Kensington Rd., 403-283-3636

Every Little Step (PG) Fri 7:10-9:15 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:30-7:10-9:15 Mon 9:15 Tue-Wed 7:10-9:15 Thu 9:15
Iron Road (PG) Thu 7
Transworld & the Source Skateboard Film Premiere (STC) Mon 7
A Warrior's Religion (STC) Sat-Sun 4:30

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM
2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

Brüno (18A) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:35-5:15-7:30-9:50
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-2-4:30-7-9:30
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Sat 12:10-3:05-7:25-10:05 Sun 12:10-3:05-10:05 Mon-Thu 12:10-3:05-7:25-10:05
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 11:30-12:05-12:40-1-3-3:35-4:10-4:30-6:30-7:05-7:35-8-10-10:35 No Passes Wed 11:30-12:05-12:40-3-3:35-4:10-4:30-6:30-7:05-7:35-8-10-10:35 No Passes Thu 11:30-12:05-12:40-1-3-3:35-4:10-4:30-6:30-7:05-7:35-8-10-10:35 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:50-2:25-5-7:40-10:10
Orphan (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-3:50-7:15-10:15
The Proposal (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:40-7:10-9:55
Public Enemies (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:20-10:30
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) Fri-Thu 11:40-3:10-6:40-10:10
The Ugly Truth (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:20
Up (G) Fri-Sat 11:55-2:30-5:05-7:45-10:25 Sun 11:55-2:30-7:45-10:25 Mon-Tue 11:55-2:30-5:05-7:45-10:25 Wed 11:55-2:30-10:25 Thu 11:55-2:30-5:05-7:45-10:25
WWE Night of Champions 2009 (STC) Sun 6

THE UPTOWN STAGE & SCREEN
612 8th Ave., 403-265-0120

Food, Inc. (PG) Fri 4:50-7-9 Sat-Sun 2:20-4:50-7-9 Mon-Thu 4:50-7-9
Summer Hours (STC) Fri 4:35-6:50-9:10 Sat-Sun 2:30-4:35-6:50-9:10 Mon-Thu 4:35-6:50-9:10

WESTHILLS 10
165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

Brüno (18A) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:20-7:30-10
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-2:15-4:30-7:20-9:40
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:35-7:40-10:10
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:50-12:30-3:10-3:45-6:30-7-9:50-10:20
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-6:40-9:10
The Proposal (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3-6:50-9:20
The Ugly Truth (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:55-4-7:10-9:30

A scene from Oliver Assayas' Summer Hours.

Summer Hours mines questions of past and present

Summer Hours
Director: Oliver Assayas
Stars: Charles Berling, Juliette Binoche
Classification: STC
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕⊕

ADAM NAYMAN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW From the dazzling self-reflexivity of Irma Vep through the grotty B-movie hijinks of Boarding Gate, Oliver Assayas is practically peerless when it comes to generating narrative and stylistic momentum.

So what to do with Summer Hours? This drama, about three adult siblings (Charles Berling, Jeremie Renier and Juliette Binoche) trying to decide what to do with their late mother's cherished country house, is atypically sedate.

Even so, it feels very much of a piece with the director's oeuvre. One of Assayas' main preoccupations is generational tension, manifested here in two questions: Can you literally hold on to the past, and, if so, to what end? The answers are bound up in the ultimate fate of the estate, which becomes a source of familial debate.

Refreshingly, Assayas permits each of his characters (and their motivations) a certain level of respect and empathy — doubly impressive given the pleasure taken by so many contemporary French filmmakers in excoriating bourgeois protagonists.

There is a sense of inevitability to the film's final movements, yet Assayas elides any sense of predictability through the adeptness of his staging. The finale, which echoes his earlier film Cold Water, suggests a mingling of past and present, with a sympathetic eye to the future. It's the year's most glorious ending, a vision of eternal recurrence as a raucous house party.

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*SOME EXCEPTIONS • SELECTION VARIES BY STORE • SOME ITEMS NOT EXACTLY AS ILLUSTRATED • WHILE SUPPLIES LAST • SEE STORE FOR DETAILS

Billboard's top pop albums
1. Leave This Town, Daughtry; **2.** BLACKsummers'night, Maxwell; **3.** Hannah Montana 3 Soundtrack; **4.** NOW 31, Various Artists; **5.** The E.N.D., The Black Eyed Peas. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Toys for the music geek

SoundCheck

This is one of those clip 'n' save sort of columns where you'll want to discreetly tear out this page because you will want to try out these programs.

Lyric Rat (lyricrat.com): Have you ever been in an argument with friends over who does a certain song? Send whatever lyrical fragment you can recall to this free Twitter application (@LyricRat) and it will reply with the title, the artist and a link where you can read more. Great for settling bar bets.

Shazam (iTunes.com): When a cheesy retro song from the '80s came on in a bar in Singapore where I was visiting with friends, a debate broke out over the name of the artist. I just whipped out my iPhone, cranked up my free Shazam app and within seconds, I had the answer. Shazam uses your iPhone mic to "listen" to a song and then compares it to a master database. It's not perfect, but it's close enough to make you reconsider the existence of magic. (By the way, the song was Who's Johnny by El Debarge.)

Songkick (songkick.com): I once had an idea for a concert wiki where everyone could upload set lists and reviews for every concert ever performed. Turns out that someone had the same (but better) idea. Songkick allows members to add details of any show to a vast, growing database of gigs past. As of this week, the number of catalogued shows is approaching 1.1 million.

Space Oddity Remixer (iTunes.com): Bowie's career was going nowhere until the BBC started using Space Oddity in their coverage of the Apollo 11 mission. In commemoration of the 40th anniversary of man on the moon, a new app from iKlax allows iPhone users (or with Garageband on the Mac) to try and improve on the original Major Tom story by remixing it. Think the vocals should be tweaked? The mellotron part was always too loud for you? Fix it. Lots of fun for $1.99.

The Tuesday Guide (tuesdayguide.blogspot.com): In Canada, 99 per cent of all new releases come out on Tuesdays. Wouldn't it be great to automatically get a list of the week's new CDs, complete with artwork, mini-reviews and links to buy the downloads? The Toronto-based Tuesday Guide takes care of all the details. You can either visit the website or, as I do, sign up for the weekly newsletter. Indispensable.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

Life after college

JASON RICHARDS
for Metro Canada

If there's one thing Asher Roth loves, it's college.

At least, that's the first thing the public came to know about the ginger-haired rap newcomer by way of his debut single, I Love College.

The song, which plays like the theme to a modern-day Animal House, finds Roth, 23, reminiscing about last night's party; so epic, he wishes he'd videotaped it. Millions related to the rapper's sentiments on the joy of dollar pizza slices, getting girls naked and drinking Miller Lite. I Love College was a hit in North America and the U.K., and Asher had a signature track on his hands.

Despite releasing two singles from his album, Asleep In The Bread Aisle, since (Lark On My Go-Kart and Be By Myself featuring Cee-Lo), the song is still his go-to on the talk-show and tour circuit. In the lobby of a Toronto hotel, hip-hop's Van Wilder confesses he's getting tired of the number.

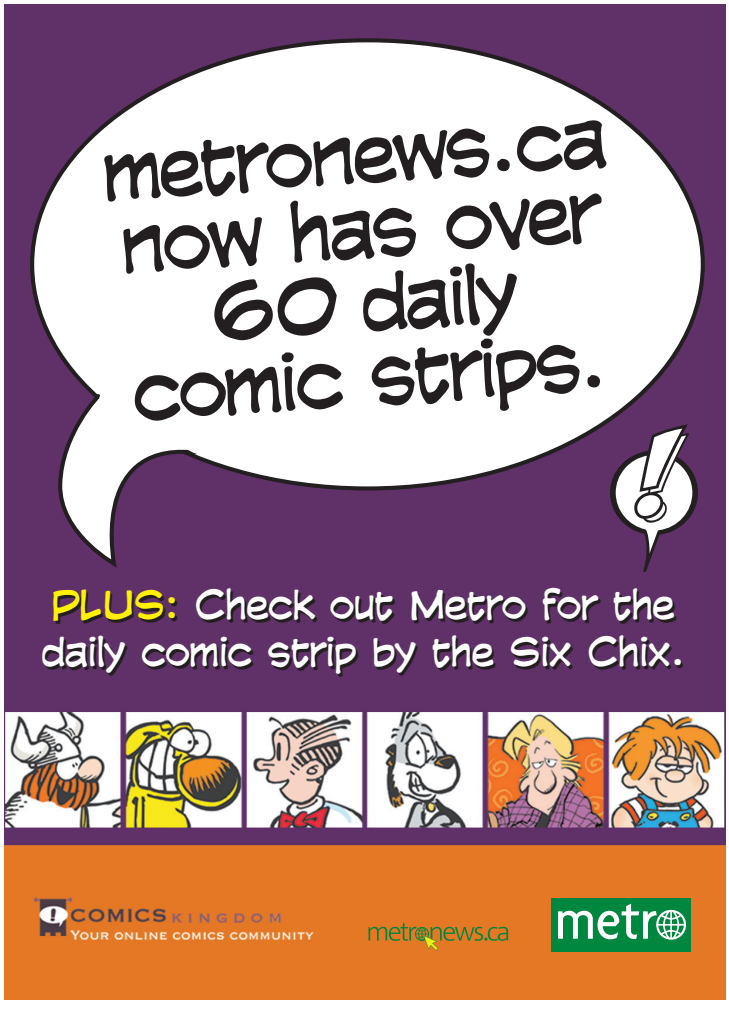
Asher Roth says there's more to his music than the hit single I love College, off his most recent album Asleep In The Bread Aisle.

"There's so much more going on with me than that song," says the former child education major. "Yes, I went to college for two years, and yes I wrote a song that was more or less a satire of it.

"I know how much more other substance there is on my album though, so yeah I'm a little fed up and anxious to move on to something else."

Originally, I Love College sampled Weezer's 1995 hit Say It Ain't So. But the band's frontman Rivers Cuomo wouldn't authorize its use, so they had to flip the beat for the commercial release. But Roth has no qualms with Cuomo.

"Say It Ain't So was one of those drunken-night, singing-along, karaoke-esque songs in college for us, which is why I used it. The song, though, is really about alcoholism in (Cuomo's) family, with his father, and him getting past that. So I completely and utterly respect the fact that he didn't want it to become about drinking and smoking weed."



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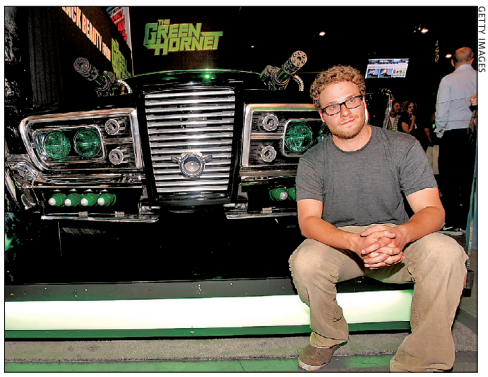
Richardson to join Tudors

Joely Richardson has joined the cast of Showtime's drama The Tudors. In a five-episode arc on the show's fourth and final season, Richardson will portray Catherine Parr, the sixth and last wife of Henry VIII (Jonathan Rhys Meyers). REUTERS

Television



GETTY IMAGES

Actor Seth Rogen unveils Black Beauty, the featured car from The Green Hornet during Comic Con 2009 in San Diego.

Comic Con in full swing

Convention offers sneak peek at Hollywood blockbusters

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

The famed San Diego Comic Con is in full swing this weekend, celebrating its 40th anniversary with four days of panels, parties and sneak peeks at upcoming blockbusters.

What started as a humble meet-up of comic book enthusiasts has grown into the premiere venue for Hollywood to unveil its latest properties to die-hard fans — whether the properties are comic book-related or not.

The biggest buzz this year surrounds James Cameron's upcoming Avatar, a 3-D live action film that's been kept carefully under wraps as the famed director has spent the past five years working on it.

But vying for attention is also the latest film in the Twilight series, New Moon. The series' predominantly female fan base adds a new element to the usually male-dominated convention, lovingly referred to by insiders as "Nerd Prom."

Comic Con audience will get the first glimpse of Iron Man 2

Hollywood has learned over the last few years to respect and even indulge the Comic Con audience. The San Diego Convention Center will play host to the first glimpse of Iron Man 2, which is fitting since the first Iron Man had its unveiling here as well.

Producer Joel Silver, who runs Silver Pictures and Dark Castle Entertainment and was the producer behind the Lethal Weapon and Matrix franchises, fully appreciates the power of the comic book audience.

"I've been involved with comic book stories for a long time," he says. "We bought Watchmen and V for Vendetta in the late '80s. I lost Watchmen over the years — I wish I had-n't."

That film, which made a huge splash at last year's Comic Con, is back to celebrate the director's cut DVD with a screening curated by director Zack Snyder.

But Silver has other projects he's focused on now, including the fan favorite DC Comics character Lobo, who should be hitting the big screen soon, according to Silver. "Lobo is one I'm very excited about doing," he says. "We've got a script we like."

FRIDAY

CA	Vu	SC		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 7/24/09	243	317	3 CFCN	etalk	Hollywood	Castle (HDTV)		Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)		Nikki Payne Fun Time Show		News
	-	-	4 OMNI	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News		News		The Simpsons	King	Metropia
	-	371	5 KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Surviving Sub.	Goode Family	According-Jim	According-Jim	20/20 (N)
	245	306	6 CBRT	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Air Farce	Alberta Music	Wild Roses (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	244	338	7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	NUMB3RS "Jacked"		The Unit		Mental "Coda" (N)		News Hour
	246	-	8 CKAL	Law & Order: SVU		Mantracker		Departures		Out There	Out There	Your City
	-	372	12 KREM	News	Hollywood	The Doctors		Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)		(10:01) Flashpoint		NUMB3RS
	-	374	14 KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Wash. Week	McLaughlin	Bill Moyers Journal (N)		NOW on PBS	Being Served	P.O.V.
	-	370	16 KHQ	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	The Chopping Block (N)		Dateline NBC		
	-	373	22 KAYU	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Mental "Coda" (N)		News
news	502	390	15 CBC	CBC News: The National		CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		fifth estate
	500	500	29 CNN	Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	501	391	52 CTV	CTV News Tonight		News	CTV News	News	CTV News	News	CTV News	News
sports	400	400	21 TSN	CFL Football: Argonauts at Blue Bombers				CFL Football Calgary Stampeders at BC Lions. From BC Place Stadium in Vancouver.				
family	408	418	27 net	MLB Baseball		Week-Baseball		Best Damn Sports Show	MMA Conn	Sportsnet Connected		UFC Top 100
	552	543	20 YTV	The Next Star 2 (N)		*Chestnut: Hero of Central Park* (2006, Comedy)				Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Family Biz
	557	541	39 FAM	Zoey 101	Jonas (N)	Sonny Chance	Wizards-Place	Suite Life	Han. Montana	*Roxy Hunter and the Secret of the Shaman*		
cable variety	-	-	18 CHTV	The Insider (N)	E News	O.J. Simpson Interview: THS		Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		20/20 (HDTV) (N)		CHCA News
	603	561	25 FOOD	Bobby Flay	Chef Abroad	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay
	615	520	26 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Bunk"		CSI: Miami
	617	522	32 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Outer Limits		BeastMaster		Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny	Trailer Park
	520	505	35 DISC	American Loggers		Science of Interrogation		Daily Planet		American Loggers		Handyman
	628	584	43 SPIKE	*Friday the 13th* ★★ (1980, Horror) Betsy Palmer.				MANswers	MANswers	MANswers	MANswers	Ways to Die
	522	516	45 HIST	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	NCIS "Driven" (HDTV)		Jurassic Fight Club		Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Ice Road Trck
	581	566	102 MTV	The Real World		True Love	The X Effect	Cribs	Cribs	16 and Pregnant		True Love

SATURDAY

CA	Vu	SC		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 7/25/09	243	317	3 CFCN	W-FIVE-Manners		*Eight Days to Live* (2006, Drama) Kelly Rowan. (DVS)				Law & Order: SVU		News
	-	-	4 OMNI	Omni News: Mandarin		Chinese Rest.	Word for Word	*Breeze of July* (2007, Drama) Monie Tung, Sammy Leung.				Chinese Rest.
	-	371	5 KXLY	News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment Tonight		Wipeout (HDTV)		Castle (HDTV)		Sexy Money
	245	306	6 CBRT	The Nature of Things		The Week the Women Went		Da Vinci's City Hall (HDTV)		Intelligence (DVS)		*Ararat*
	244	338	7 CICT	Doc		Doc "Nip, Tuck and Die"		Doc "The Family Tree"		Doc "The Last Ride"		News Final (N)
	246	-	8 CKAL	Without a Trace		Murdoch Mysteries		*Treed Murray* ★★ (2001, Drama) David Hewlett.				The City Show
	-	372	12 KREM	News	Scrubs	Cold Case		The Unit "Inquisition"		48 Hours Mystery		48 Hr. Mystery
	-	374	14 KSPS	The Lawrence Welk Show		Magic Moments: The Best of 50's Pop				The Big Band Years		
	-	370	16 KHQ	News (N)	Judge Judy	CSI: NY (HDTV)		Kings (N)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law/Ord SVU
	-	373	22 KAYU	House "Three Stories"		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Cops	Cops (N)	America's Most Wanted		News
news	502	390	15 CBC	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone		Sat. Report	Our World	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone
	500	500	29 CNN	(6) Black in America		Newsroom		Black in America "Tomorrow's Leaders"				Newsroom
	501	391	52 CTV	CTV News Weekend		News	CTV News	News	CTV News	News	CTV News	News
sports	400	400	21 TSN	NASCAR Racing: Nationwide		SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)			Boxing	Friday Night Fights. (HDTV)		
family	408	418	27 net	Saturday Night Poker		MLB Baseball Florida Marlins at Los Angeles Dodgers. From Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles.						Sportsnet Con.
	552	543	20 YTV	Kid vs. Kat	League-Evil	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Survive This	Adrenaline Proj	In Real Life		Prank Patrol
	557	541	39 FAM	(7:01) Jonas	Latest Buzz	Suite Life	Zoey 101	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	*Batman Forever* ★★ (1995, Action) Val Kilmer.		
cable variety	-	-	18 CHTV	Out There	E News	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	*Trophy Wife* (2006, Suspense) Brooke Burns, Kyle Cassie.				E News
	603	561	25 FOOD	The Next Food Network Star		Kitchen Nightmares		Hell's Kitchen		Challenge Birthday cake.		Next Food Star
	615	520	26 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The Sopranos		CSI: Miami "Broken"		CSI: Miami
	617	522	32 SHOW	*Lost Behind Bars* (2006, Suspense)		Paget Brewster.		*Abducted*				*The Descent*
	520	505	35 DISC	Deadliest Catch		Destroyed	Guinea Pig	Criss Angel	Criss Angel	Deadliest Catch		Destroyed
	628	584	43 SPIKE	UFC Unleashed		When Good Pets Go Bad		When Animals Attack IV		UFC Unleashed		I Bet You Will
	522	516	45 HIST	Lost Inventions		Edmund Fitzgerald		Crime Stories		*Forrest Gump* ★★★ (1994, Drama)		
	581	566	102 MTV	MTV News	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	MTV Live

SUNDAY

CA	Vu	SC		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 7/26/09	243	317	3 CFCN	Corner Gas	Degrassi: TNG	Without a Trace (HDTV)		Merlin (HDTV) (N)		Cold Case (HDTV)		News
	-	-	4 OMNI	Without a Trace		King	Look I Cook	Bollywood Boulevard		Losing My Religion		Toudi Sehat
	-	371	5 KXLY	News	Storm Stories	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Kadzis Family"				Housewives
	245	306	6 CBRT	Heartland (HDTV) (DVS)		*The Summit* (2008, Suspense) Mia Maestro. (DVS)				CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		Doctor Who
	244	338	7 CICT	16:9 Picture	American Dad	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Big Brother 11 (N)		Family Guy	American Dad	News Final (N)
	246	-	8 CKAL	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Friends	Hates Chris	Kings		Royal Pains		Reviews
	-	372	12 KREM	KREM 2 News at 6 (N)		60 Minutes (HDTV)		Big Brother 11 (N)		Cold Case (HDTV)		Without Trace
	-	374	14 KSPS	(6) Dr. Wayne Dyer: Excuses Begone!				Masterpiece Mystery! (N) (DVS)			Parks	MI-5
	-	370	16 KHQ	News (N)	Wheel-Fortune	Dateline NBC		Merlin (HDTV) (N)		*The Storm* (2009, Suspense)		
	-	373	22 KAYU	House		'Til Death	American Dad	*Zoom* ★ (2006, Comedy) Tim Allen, Spencer Breslin.				News
news	502	390	15 CBC	CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		Doc Zone "Wild Horse Redemption"				CBC News: Sunday Night		Doc Zone
	500	500	29 CNN	(6) Black in America		Newsroom		Black in America "Today's Pioneers"				State of Union
	501	391	52 CTV	CTV News Weekend		News	CTV News	News	CTV News	News	CTV News	News
sports	400	400	21 TSN	(6) World Poker Tour		SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)			Motoring 2009	College Basketball: Slam Dunk & 3-Point		
family	408	418	27 net	(6) MLB Baseball Chicago White Sox at Detroit Tigers.				Sportsnet Connected		Saturday Night Poker		UFC Ult. 100
	552	543	20 YTV	*Air Buddies* (2006, Comedy) Patrick Cranshaw.				Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	In Real Life "E.R."		Adrenaline Proj
	557	541	39 FAM	(7:01) Jonas	Latest Buzz	Suite Life	Zoey 101	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	*Superman* ★★★ (1978, Science Fiction)		
cable variety	-	-	18 CHTV	Inside Hollywood		Greatest Myst.	Greatest Myst.	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Kadzis Family"				D. Richards
	603	561	25 FOOD	Iron Chef America		Dinner: Impossible		Restaurant Makeover		Get on Plate	Food Detective	Iron Chef Am.
	615	520	26 A&E	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Hammertime	Hammertime	Hammertime	Hammertime	Gene Simmons Family Jewels		Gene Simmons
	617	522	32 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Guard (HDTV)		*A Life Interrupted* (2007, Docudrama) Lea Thompson.				Rescue Me
	520	505	35 DISC	Nature's Most Amazing Events		MythBusters		Anthony Bourdain		Nature's Most Amazing Events		Nature's Most
	628	584	43 SPIKE	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Jesse James Is a Dead Man		Jesse James Is a Dead Man		MANswers	MANswers	*Quick-Dead*
	522	516	45 HIST	Bloody Italy		17 Days of Hades		Dogfights		*Flyboys* ★★ (2006, Historical Drama)		
	581	566	102 MTV	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	After	MTV News	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs

Dr. Who out to conquer America

TELEVISION Doctor Who is often seen as a quintessentially English character — an eccentric fearlessly fighting Daleks and Cybermen with the help of his TARDIS time machine in the shape of a 1950s London police box.

Now the British TV hero is out to conquer America, where, despite enjoying a loyal following, he has yet to compete with other science fiction series like Star Trek.

David Tennant, the 10th actor to play Dr. Who since the series started in 1963, has made four special episodes for the BBC series that will be shown in 2009 and 2010.

On July 26 the first episode Doctor Who: Planet of the Dead will be aired on BBC America, part of the British Broadcasting Corporation, and available in stores three two days later on DVD and Blu-ray.

"Growing up with Doctor Who, I was aware it had an international life," Tennant said.

"It has never quite conquered America in the mainstream. Even now it's still not quite in everybody's consciousness, although the following it has is devoted. BBC America is keen to bridge that gap."

David Tennant

Tennant, popular with fans since taking over as the Time Lord in 2005, believes that Doctor Who's international popularity may be explained by his being so British.

"That may be part of its appeal overseas, of course, in the same way of (Agatha Christie's) Miss Marple and other British brands," said the 38-year-old Scot. "It's not sci-fi in the traditional American way, it's not jocks in space."

In Planet of the Dead, Dr. Who is trapped on a desert planet without the TARDIS. When a London bus arrives in the same world, he joins forces with the mysterious Lady Christina to get back home, with the unfortunate bus passengers. REUTERES

Drawn Together movie
Drawn Together, Comedy Central's animated take on reality shows, is headed for a movie version that's scheduled for a 2010 video release. The Drawn Together Movie: The Movie! was unveiled Wednesday. REUTERS

Television

A lifelong innovator

Superheroes may come and go, but Stan Lee is forever.

At age 86, the grand master of the comic-book world — and the Marvel universe, in particular — is still going strong, creating a fresh crop of mythic characters with outsize powers and troubled pasts. As he reflects on a landscape that has undergone a seismic shift in the past 30 years, Lee is far from out of ideas or ambition.

"People usually retire because they can finally stop working and they'll have the time to do what they really want to do," Lee says. "But I'm doing what I want to do! If anybody forced me to spend a day on the golf course, I'd feel I was being tortured!"

Famous for co-creating some of the most enduring comics heroes in history (Spider-Man, Incredible Hulk, Iron Man, the X-Men, the Fantastic Four), Lee is still innovating. He unleashed his latest creation — a digital comic titled Time Jumper — yesterday at Comic-Con, a conference he has attended since just after its launch in 1970.

Big show

- Disney's splashy launch makes sense. In the past decade, comics have moved up the entertainment food chain and are treated like blockbuster films, with comics creators launching new material as events.

Backed by Disney, the project is made up of serialized five-minute episodes with built-in cliffhangers that will be released every two weeks through December.

"Once it's premiered on cell phones and the Internet, it could go anywhere," Lee says. "It could become a TV series, it could become a movie. We want to start this one slowly and build up the fan following and get the excitement and the mystery behind it and have people talking about it."

Disney's initial order is for 10 episodes, with a viral marketing campaign to promote the project and, launched yesterday, a free Time Jumper iPhone application that enables fans to convert photos to comic-book imagery, plus 99-cent episode downloads available on iTunes.

When Lee moved from New York to Los Angeles in the late 1970s, it was to animate Marvel's characters in cartoons, but his interest in film and TV was soon sparked. That's now the main focus of POW! Entertainment, the company he launched in 2005 after failing with another company, Stan Lee Media, which he is still battling in litigation. POW! has a first-look deal with Disney, which recently extended the relationship.

"It's been very gratifying," Lee says. "But every time we discuss anything with anybody, they say, 'Are you going to do a comic-book version?' So we can't get away from comics — and I must admit I'm not really eager to get away from comics."

Among Lee's POW! projects for Disney are three new characters – Blaze, Tigress and Nick Ratchett – designed specifically for potential feature franchises. REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES
At age 86, Stan Lee is still going strong.

Winehouse denies assault

TRIAL British singer Amy Winehouse told a London court on Thursday that she pushed a woman after a charity ball last September because she had been scared of her, but denied her in the face.

Dancer Sherene Flash has accused the 25-year-old star of punching her in the eye after she had asked the Grammy winner to pose for a photograph.

"She (Flash) moved her left arm to lean down to me and tried to pose next to me," Winehouse told the City of Westminster Magistrates' Court in London.

Winehouse

"Her friend came round in front of us and started taking a picture," the Press Association quoted her as saying.

REUTERS

Lance fighting cancer

As cyclist Lance Armstrong competes in the Tour de France, he's still making huge strides in his fight against cancer — only this time he's teaming up with Gossip Girl writer Jessica Queller in a video telling the story of her mother's battle with cancer. TVGUIDE.COM

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Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Hell's Kitchen Season 6

TV Sixteen fresh aspirants face the culinary devil — celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay — and his forked tongue in a season that promises to be "the most shocking ever." This time the top prize has a Canadian twist. The winner gets to be the head chef of the Araxi restaurant in Whistler, B.C., the home of the 2010 Winter Olympics.

2 Humpday

FILM Straight men gone gay? Not quite — but the Sundance Film Festival favourite definitely ups the ante on the bromance. The story revolves around two thirty-something male friends who decide to enter a porn contest by filming themselves making love to each other. Much awkward hilarity and revelations about male bonding ensue.

3 Watchmen

DVD Here's a thought: Instead of filling the coffers of Michael Bay (the man behind the insufferable Transformers sequel and other such monstrosities), why not rent (or buy) this CGI-driven, superhero flick that's not afraid to show its heart and head? Director Zack Snyder's take on the "unfilmable" comic-book classic may not be perfect but the attempt is bold enough to deserve a second look.

4 'Splosion Man

VIDEO GAME It's being hailed as the sleeper hit of the gaming world. Available for the Xbox 360 Live Arcade, Twisted Pixel's quirky title about a man who wreaks havoc on evil scientists after breaking loose in a research facility has quietly captured the imagination and hearts of both gamers and critics.

5 Billy Talent III: Billy Talent

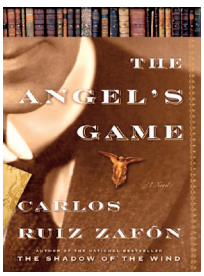
ALBUM The Toronto-based screamo rockers knocked out Black Eyed Peas from the No. 1 spot on Canadian charts this week with their third studio effort. It's no fluke either. The foursome accomplished the chart-winning feat in 2006 as well with their second album.

6 Retro swimwear

FASHION You can make a splash without showing a lot of skin — that was the general message at recent Miami Beach fashion shows. Designers displayed many high-waisted and ruffled looks. As for shape, it was all about the bandeau and the monokini (attached bikini) or cutout one-pieces.

7 The Angel's Game: Carlos Ruiz Zafón

BOOK The current literary superstar of Spain returns with another novel that's burning up the book charts. But The Angel's Game no straight-up crowd-pleaser. The author of the 12-million-selling The Shadow of the Wind conjures up a rare masterpiece — one that perfectly blends low-brow thrills with true fictional insight.



Mix of Six

Eagles of Death Metal

Where: University of Calgary
When: MacEwan Hall

Tickets are $27 for the standing only event. Show starts at 7 p.m.

Paskapoo Downhill Rodeo

Where: Canada Olympic Park
When: July 24 to 26

The free event features skateboard gravity sports on the COP course. The event is open to the public and features more the 150 racers from around the world. A party caps off each night with bands and DJs. For more information call 403-247-5474.

Historic Calgary Week

Where: Various Locations
When July 24 to Aug. 3

More than 50 events celebrate the history of Calgary and surrounding areas. Events include community walks, heritage building tours and presentations. For complete listings visit chinookcountry.org

Apollo Mission 40th Anniversary Mission

Where: Rothney Astrophysical Observatory
When: July 25

Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Apollo Mission by learning more about the significance and triumph. Astronomers will be on hand to answer questions. Runs from 8 to 11 p.m. A suggestion donation is $20 per car.

Extra Happy Ghost CD Release

Where: Marquee Room
When: July 25

Calgary's own Matt Swann releases his new album, How The Beach Boys Sound to Those with No Feelings, under the Extra Happy Ghost. Show starts at 10 p.m.

Show And Shine

Where: Foothills Stadium
When: July 26

Featuring classic cars and custom motorcycles. In support of breast cancer awareness. Runs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with the baseball game starting at 1:35 p.m. For more information call 403-277-2255.

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While quantities last. Selection will vary by store. Offer valid at Sears Department stores only.

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Kelis welcomes baby boy

Kelis has welcomed a baby boy. Knight Jones — weighing 7.8 lbs. — was born Tuesday at 9 p.m. in New York City, a rep for the 29-year-old singer tells usmagazine.com, adding both baby and mom are doing "wonderful." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Mischa out of hospital?

IMPROVING A week after calling police with a health problem and being placed under a psychiatric hold, Mischa Barton is "making improvements" and will get back to work, her rep tells People.

Specific details about the 23-year-old actress' condition were not available but Barton's rep says she is "still seeking treatment" and plans to return to work on the CW show The Beautiful Life, which is scheduled to begin production July 31.

Friends have said the former O.C. star is "dealing with personal issues" and has been on "a destructive path" for a while.

According to a source, Barton has now left Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, where last week she was placed under a psychiatric evaluation, known as a 5150 hold.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sis Rebbie to raise MJ's kids?

FAMILY MATTERS TMZ.com is reporting multiple sources in the Jackson family as saying that even if Katherine Jackson gets custody of Michael Jackson's kids, it will be the late singer's big sister Rebbie Jackson will raise the children.

The 59-year-old singer, who shares a home in Las Vegas with her husband of over 20 years, has kept a low public profile, but privately she has been deeply involved in the lives of Michael's children.

TMZ reports Rebbie is currently living with Katherine at the family's Encino, Calif., home and is caring for the kids day-to-day.

Although the family is divided on many issues involving Jackson's estate, the gossip website says there's no argument when it comes to Rebbie caring for the kids — and that whether she eventually becomes the custodial parent in name or not, she will end up with the primary responsibility of raising her brother's three children. METRO NEWS SERVICES

E-showdown: CNN v. Larry King

ONLINE BEEF A Twitter fight has broken out between Larry King and his handlers at CNN, TMZ.com reports.

King's wife Shawn says CNN asked him to stop posting personal details on KingsThings — such as him and Ryan Seacrest arguing over who's going to pay for dinner.

King has started a personal account, Shawn KingsHubby.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Pap gets slap from Jude?

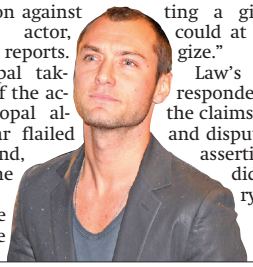
SCUFFLE A female photographer claims to have gotten a "real stinger" of a slap from Jude Law outside a London restaurant on Thursday and is considering legal action against the actor, popeater.com reports.

Harsha Gopal taking pictures of the actor when, Gopal alleges, the star flailed his arms around, striking the woman.

"He hit me full on the face, it was a real stinger, it was very sore," she told the Daily Mail. "It was deliberate — you could see it in his face. Maybe he didn't realize he was hitting a girl, but he could at least apologize."

Law's lawyer has responded, calling the claims "nonsense" and disputing Gopal's assertion that he didn't say sorry.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Gosselin love triangle emerges?

HOT COMMODITY A tabloid reporter who has been photographed twice with Jon Gosselin claims to be dating the 32-year-old father of eight, usmagazine.com reports.

"I didn't mean it to happen, it just did," Star reporter Kate Major, 26, said Tuesday. "I went to do a story on Jon and ended up falling for him."

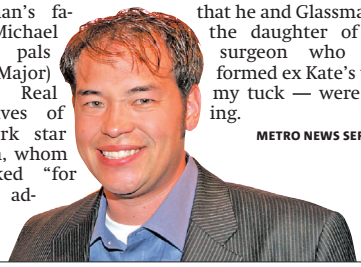
Gosselin and Major were first photographed together Saturday at New York restaurant Accademia di Vino, where an onlooker told usmagazine.com that Major "was flirting shamelessly with Jon."

On Tuesday, a source said the two dined in the Hamptons with Lindsay Lohan's father Michael (who is pals with Major) and Real Housewives of New York star Jill Zarin, whom Jon asked "for media advice."

Gosselin has yet to confirm if he and Major are an item.

Hailey Glassman, 22, also has yet to weigh in on Major's remarks. Last week, Gosselin announced that he and Glassman — the daughter of the surgeon who performed ex Kate's tummy tuck — were dating.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Perez signs first act to record label

DIVERSIFICATION Gossip blogger Perez Hilton has announced his first signing to his new music label Perezcious Music: French singer Sliimy, ew.com reports.

"His music will make a lot of people smile," he said. "It's good, adult, quirky pop."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lily finds her 'Regular Joe'

NEW FLING Lily Allen is dating a painter-decorator, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer — who has previously dated Chemical Brothers star Ed Simons, record executive Seb Chew and art dealer Jay Jopling — is reportedly romancing house painter Sam Cooper after wanting a boyfriend who was closer to her own age and out of the limelight.

A source said: "Lily is tired of only ever being involved with well-known men. She wanted to go out with someone her own age who isn't involved in music or media.

"Sam works hard as a painter and decorator and leads a totally normal life. Lily is completely smitten with him. They have known each other for a while but have only just started dating properly."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tracy's animal house

ANIMAL LOVER Let's get one thing straight. Tracy Morgan is not Tracy Jordan, the wild and crazy character he plays on NBC's 30 Rock. In fact, the only thing they share is a love for not-so-furry pets like snakes, people.com reports.

"It's like going to the zoo when you come to my house," Morgan told People, who voices a guinea pig action hero in Disney's new action comedy G-Force. "I have snakes, three sharks, moray eels, piranhas, five scorpions and a bird spider. All of them are predators. They are dangerous but it's cool to have strong and powerful pets."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

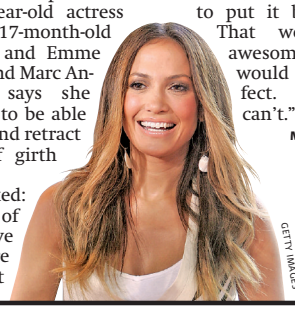
Detachable baby bumps?

GREAT IDEA Jennifer Lopez thinks life would be "perfect" if your pregnancy bump was removable, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

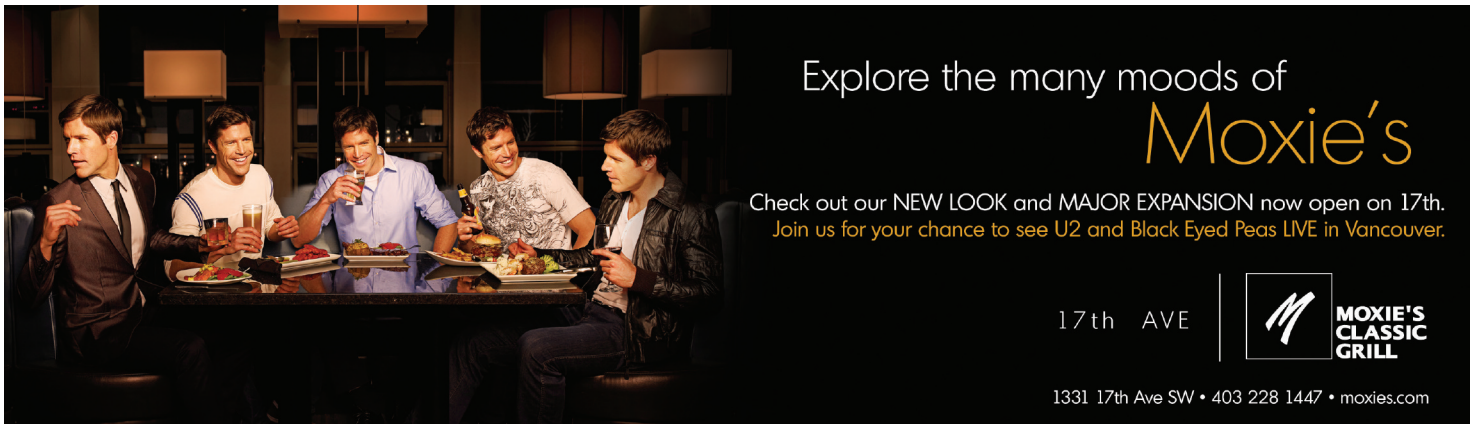
The 39-year-old actress — who has 17-month-old twins Max and Emme with husband Marc Anthony — says she would love to be able to expand and retract her midriff girth at will.

She joked: "A bunch of us who have babies, we're like, 'It would be great when you are pregnant: You could take it off five times during the pregnancy, only for a half hour, then you have to put it back on.' That would be awesome. It would be perfect. But you can't."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



GETTY IMAGES

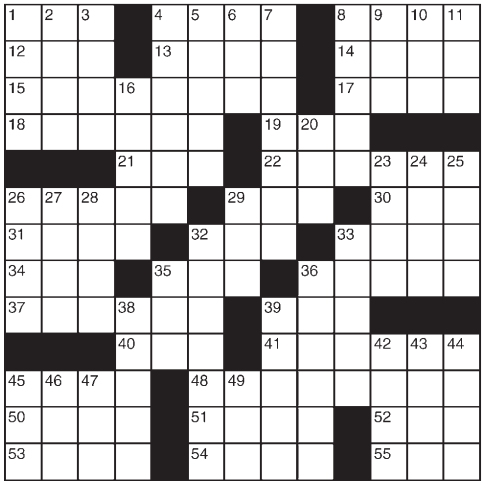


Friday Mostly sunny 29 C / 13 C
Saturday Mostly sunny 30 C / 13 C
Sunday Partly cloudy 28 C / 13 C

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Andrew Schultz, Weather Specialist – Breakfast Television
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta." **WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.**

Take Five



Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

3		5			1		2	
				7	3			1
7				5		9		
		7					6	
		9	6		5	7		
	8					2		
		4		2				6
1			8	4				
	3		5			4		8

ACROSS

1 Film buff's cable channel
4 One of the king's men
8 Ringlet
12 Story of a lifetime?
13 Reverberate
14 Catch a glimpse of
15 Dangerous current
17 Hobbling
18 Heat (Prefix)
19 Rage
21 Football filler
22 Metro
26 Explosion
29 Lawyer's due
30 Raw rock
31 Bush adviser Karl
32 Round Table address
33 $10 in quarters, maybe
34 In olden times
35 CONTROL Agent 86
36 Man of morals?
37 Disliking
39 "— Doubtfire"
40 Attach
41 Ancient
45 Last writes?
48 Ailing
50 Treaty
51 Feed-bag contents
52 "Hail!"
53 Deuce beater
54 Picture of health?
55 Legislation

DOWN

1 Touch
2 Ho Chi —
3 "The Da Vinci —"
4 Say it's OK
5 Tony nominee, maybe
6 Personal question
7 Just as smart
8 Star
9 "Born in the —"
10 Spinning abbr.
11 Caustic solution
16 Obliterate
20 Regret
23 Courts
24 Singer Guthrie
25 Kennel sound
26 Actor Pitt
27 Trademark symbol
28 Acknowledge
29 Predicament
32 Backyard play area
33 Tailor anew
35 Chic, to Austin Powers
36 Fleet
38 Stylishly dressed
39 Valletta is its capital
42 October gemstone
43 Stromboli spillage
44 Bob's daytime-TV successor
45 Make up your mind
46 Prohibit
47 Setting for Capades
49 Listener

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

E	M	U	S		M	O	A	T
G	Y	R	E		I	N	C	H
G	R	A	C	E	N	O	T	E
S	A	L	A	M	I			R
			N	O		T	H	E
R	E	S	T		B	R	O	
A	L	P			I	A	M	
F	L	A	B		A	C	E	
		C	U	R	S	E		H
T	H	E	S	E			S	U
R	U	B		P	L	A	C	E
A	G	A		R	I	G	A	
P	E	R		O	V	E	N	

B	O	P						
R	I	O						
A	N	N						
I	C	K	Y					
			M	E				
A	L	M	S					
E	A	U						
S	T	E	P					
N	D	A	E					
I	C	K						
E	R	I	E					
R	E	D	S					

4	1	8	9	7	6	5	3	2
3	7	2	4	1	5	8	6	9
9	5	6	8	3	2	1	4	7
7	9	4	1	8	3	6	2	5
8	2	5	7	6	9	4	1	3
1	6	3	2	5	4	7	9	8
5	8	9	3	4	1	2	7	6
2	4	7	6	9	8	3	5	1
6	3	1	5	2	7	9	8	4

On the web

Find more games to play + more cartoons by the Six Chix at metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Smoked Trout and Pasta Salad

INGREDIENTS:

1 each red and yellow pepper, seeded and quartered
10 oz (300 g) penne rigati or other pasta shapes
10 oz (300 g) smoked trout fillets
1 orange
1 large avocado
2 green onions, sliced
2 tbsp (25 ml) capers, well drained
1 1/2 cups (375 ml) arugula

DRESSING:

5 tbsp (75 ml) plain low-fat yogourt
2 tbsp (10 ml) lemon juice
1 tsp (5 ml) Dijon mustard
2 tbsp (25 ml) chopped fresh dill
1/2 tsp (2 ml) white sugar
Pepper to taste

METHOD:

1. Preheat broiler. Place peppers on broiler rack, skin-side up, and broil until skins are blistered and blackened. Remove from broiler and place in plastic bag. Seal and set aside to cool.
2. Meanwhile, bring large pot of water to boil and add pasta. Cook according to package instructions until al dente. Drain, rinse with cold water and drain well again. Transfer pasta to large salad bowl.
3. Flake trout fillets into bite-sized pieces, discarding skin and bones. Cut all skin and pith from orange and cut out segments from between membranes. Halve segments. Halve, pit and peel avocado, then cut into small chunks. Mix dressing ingredients and season with pepper.
4. Peel peppers and cut into strips. Add peppers to pasta together with trout, orange, avocado, green onions and capers. Add dressing and toss gently but thoroughly. Just before serving, toss in arugula.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Life is full of possibilities, now more than ever, and the Sun in Leo urges you to let the artistic side of your nature flourish.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Strive to keep your feelings under control today, and make sure you look at the events of your life from a logical perspective.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Sometimes you can be too suspicious for your own good but today and over the weekend you will go to the other extreme and trust everyone.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A money matter or business issue is no longer yours to command, so put it out of your mind and focus instead on other things in your life .

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
The Sun in your sign makes this the perfect time to start something new. It does not have to be amazing but it must have the Leo stamp on it.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Make this the day you start to clear out all that emotional junk you have been carrying around like a bag full of guilty secrets.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
The Sun in one of the more big-hearted areas of your chart urges you to forget about being number one and do things to help life's also-rans.

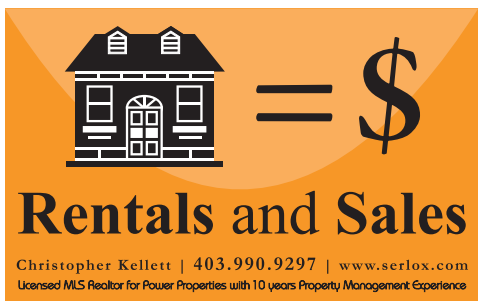
SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Would you like to change the way you live? Would you like to lead a more meaningful existence? If so, now is the time to do something about it.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
The Sun in Leo at this time of year encourages you to take the kind of risks others say you should try to avoid. Be brave, be bold.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You may be stuck in a rut and you may be desperate to get some excitement back in your life, but first do something about your financial situation.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
The Sun in Leo at this time of year makes all things possible for those who know how to give and take. On balance you'll come out ahead.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
If there are doubts in the back of your mind your efforts will most likely fall short, and that would be a shame for someone of your intelligence and talent.



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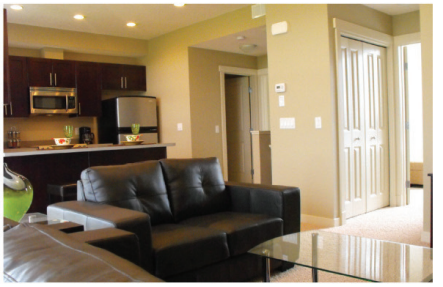

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